

# Understanding Barriers to Reproductive Healthcare among Somali Women in Columbus, Ohio

## Purpose

Through qualitative research with Somali women in Columbus, this study will assess barriers to reproductive healthcare utilization in order to develop potential programmatic interventions to increase Somali women's access to reproductive healthcare.

The Somali community will then be directly involved in the evaluation of these interventions in order to ensure the development of culturally-acceptable programs that will lead to reduced risk of adverse reproductive health outcomes.

## Impact

The identification of barriers to seeking services for reproductive health needs including prenatal care, births, STI care, and cervical cancer.

A formal assessment of the feasibility and acceptability of those potential programs among the target population, Somali women in Columbus, Ohio.

The dissemination of findings through publication in peer-reviewed journals, as well as through community meetings.

### Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Public Health  
College of Medicine  
Somali Student Association

### Community Partners Involved

Columbus Public Health  
Center for Somali Women's Advancement  
Community Refugee & Immigration Services (CRIS)  
Congresswoman Joyce Beatty's Office  
Our Helpers  
New American Initiative of the City of Columbus



## Contact

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